

Tuesday, May 17th 1864
8 o'clock A.M.

Senate met. Prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. William M. Peck, Senator-elect from the 19th Senatorial District, came forward, took the oath of office, and his seat. Mr. Hord from the Committee on State Affairs on behalf of said committee recommended the indefinite postponement of a bill to allow the use of the Penitentiary for the confinement of deserters from the Army of the Confederate States duly sentenced by court martial. Also a bill to amend the 819th and 820th Articles of the Penal Code with the following amendments: Strike out the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd sections embracing all of the bill down to the words "free white persons" in 5th line from bottom of 1st page. Amend last clause by striking out "five" and inserting "six."

Mr. Harcourt, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, reported the following bills and recommended their passage:

A bill to amend the second and third sections of an act to reorganize the 16th Judicial District and to define the time of holding courts therein.

A bill to reorganize the 17th Judicial District and prescribe the time for holding courts therein.

A bill to amend the act to organize County Courts. Mr. Selman offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be and is hereby instructed to inquire into and report upon the constitutionality of the law authorizing the issuance of State Treasury warrants, such for instance as those issued under and by virtue of the 3rd section of an act approved January 15, 1862, to the end that the Senate may have the benefit of the opinion of said committee as to the constitutionality or unconstitutionality of such issues. Adopted.

Mr. Dickson moved the reconsideration of the vote passing the bill making an appropriation to pay the contingent expenses of the Extra Session of the 10th Legislature. Carried. The bill was then referred to Finance Committee.

Joint resolution in relation to the frontier was read 2nd time. Mr. Throckmorton moved to amend by striking out the proviso in 2nd section. Carried. Mr. Throckmorton offered for the 5th section the following substitute: "That the Governor make such arrangements with General Smith

as he may be able to do for the payment of subsistence and of the frontier organization provided the forces so organized are not to be withdrawn from the control of the governor and officers appointed by him." Adopted. Amend by striking out 1st section giving appropriate members to the other sections. Carried. The resolution was then ordered to be engrossed. Rule suspended. Read 3rd time and passed.

A bill to define and punish offenses committed within this state by persons under the protection of the public enemy. Read 2nd time. Mr. Hord moved to lay on table, lost. The bill was then ordered to be engrossed.

A bill to define and punish the unlawful interference with the transportation and exportation of cotton or other articles. Read 3rd time. Mr. Dickson offered the following amendment: Provided that parties who have in good faith purchased exemptions for the transportation of cotton and turned over to the military authorities of the Trans-Mississippi Department a portion of their cotton to secure the same, where the same has been done previous to the passage of this act, shall not be held liable to the pains and penalties herein contained for the use of the said permits in conformity with the contract under which they were granted. Mr. Dickson then moved to postpone further consideration until Thursday next at 10 o'clock A.M.

The Senate then adjourned until 8 o'clock A.M. tomorrow.

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Senate met. Prayer by the Chaplain, roll called, quorum present. The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Harcourt, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, made a report on the bill providing subsistence for families of soldiers, recommending its reference to the Committee on State Affairs.

The Committee on Engrossed Bills reported the following correctly engrossed:

Joint resolution in regard to frontier organization and a bill to define and punish offenses committed within this state by persons under the protection of the public enemy.

The Committee on Military Affairs, Mr. Throckmorton, Chairman, reported a bill supplementary to an act to pro-